

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 33

DATE: 3/4/99

(Filing No. H-36)

BANKING AND INSURANCE

MAJORITY

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**STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
119TH LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 23, L.D. 33, Bill, "An Act to Repeal the Community Rating Law"

Amend the bill by striking out the title and substituting the following:

'An Act to Delay Implementation of a Separate Community Rate for Individuals Eligible for Medicare'

Further amend the bill by inserting after the title and before the enacting clause the following:

'Emergency preamble. Whereas, Acts of the Legislature do not become effective until 90 days after adjournment unless enacted as emergencies; and

Whereas, this Act needs to take effect immediately for the protection of those individuals with individual health insurance who will soon become eligible for Medicare; and

Whereas, in the judgment of the Legislature, these facts create an emergency within the meaning of the Constitution of Maine and require the following legislation as immediately necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health and safety; now, therefore,'

Further amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the following:

'Sec. 1. 24-A MRSA §2736-C, sub-§2, ¶E, as enacted by PL 1997, c. 370, Pt. E, §3, is amended to read:

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT

2 E. A separate community rate may be established for
individuals eligible for Medicare Part A without paying a
4 premium; however, this rate may not be applied if both the
Medicare eligibility date and the issue date are prior to
6 ~~the-effective-date-of-this-paragraph~~ July 1, 2000.

8 **Sec. 2. Retroactivity.** This Act applies retroactively to
September 19, 1997.

10 **Emergency clause.** In view of the emergency cited in the
preamble, this Act takes effect when approved.'

12
14 Further amend the bill by inserting at the end before the
summary the following:

16
18 **FISCAL NOTE**

The Bureau of Insurance within the Department of
20 Professional and Financial Regulation may realize some minor
administrative savings from deferring the bureau's need to
22 perform certain actuarial reviews.'

24
26 **SUMMARY**

This amendment is the majority report of the Joint Standing
28 Committee on Banking and Insurance.

30 The amendment replaces the bill and amends the title. It
delays until July 1, 2000 implementation by insurers of a
32 separate community rate for individuals eligible for Medicare
Part A without paying a premium. The amendment makes the bill
34 retroactive to September 19, 1997.

36 The amendment also adds an emergency preamble, emergency
clause and a fiscal note to the bill.